



Docket No.: 1083.1046

#27/F
10-23-02
J-

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Takahiro KII, et al.

Serial No. 08/991,855

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No. 3105

Filed: December 16, 1997

Examiner: Poon, K.

For: ELECTRONIC NEWS SYSTEM AND RECORDING MEDIUM TO BE USED
THEREFOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

OCT 18 2002

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is to be considered with the RCE filed on October 16, 2002. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND pending claims 1, 7, 9, 13, 17, 21, and 25 in accordance with the following:

1. (AS FOUR TIMES AMENDED) An electronic news system for managing an electronic message and a reply to said message, comprising:
storage means for storing data for a fixed form reply, stored separately from the electronic message;
output means for outputting the message with said data for a reply to the message, said data for a reply independent of the message and inputted separately from the message; and
control means for accepting only a selection out of the outputted data for a reply as the reply to the message.

7. (AS FOUR TIMES AMENDED) an electronic news system including a client apparatus and a server apparatus which manages an electronic message and a reply to said message transmitted from the client apparatus, said client apparatus comprising: